

Mansfield Parks Advisory Committee
Minutes for April 6, 2005

Members present: Sue Craig, David Silsbee, Jean Haskell, Jaquelyn Perfetto, Jennifer Kaufman.

I. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Sue Craig, at 7:59 pm. The minutes of 3-2-05 were accepted.

II. Continuing Business

A. PAC member recruitment continues.

B. PAC reports:

1. Management. *Eagleville Preserve* management schedule was reviewed and approved. Review of *Schoolhouse Brook Park* management plan will continue in June. The *Old Spring Hill Field* portion was approved.
2. Flooding at Merrow Meadow and trees down at Shelter Falls will be addressed with staff Work Requests.
3. **Silsbee moved and Perfetto seconded that the Plains Road property be named *Stillwater Park*. The motion passed.**

C. Parks Staff Reports

1. Natural Areas Volunteers, J. Haskell.
 - a. The volunteer reception of April 6 was well received, with 24 in attendance. Sam Dodd was the first recipient of the annual service award.
 - b. Spring workdays continue in April at *OSHF*, and in May at *Mt. Hope Park*.
 - c. The summer workday schedule is set, including butterfly monitoring training July 14, followed by counting July 16.
2. Friends of Mansfield Parks, S. Craig.
 - a. Sue is receiving responses from her inquiries about local nature centers. After school programming has increased attendance.
 - b. Spring env. ed. programs are going well. The summer schedule will include an insects program in August, besides the Thursday exercise treks.
 - c. The family activity guide will be produced in-house, without a Q-S grant proposal.
 - d. Walking Weekend suggestions included Aquatic study at Mt. Hope and a walk along the Willimantic River.
3. Development, J. Kaufman.
 - a. Work continues on the Online Trail and Plains Road projects with Kristin Schwab.
 - b. Charlotte Pyle is helping us with submitting WHIP grant proposals.
 - c. No new acquisitions to report.

- d. Al Cyr will read the joint comm. open space acquisition bond referendum proposal at the public hearing April 11. Kaufman continues negotiations for a separate Parks budget.

III. Other parks-related Town business.

- A. Craig moved and Silsbee seconded that PAC supports the comments of the Conservation Committee's minutes of Feb. 16, 2005 regarding PZC File# 1113-2, Wild Rose Estates II. PAC suggests that the PZC encourage the developer to buffer the cedar swamp, and endow any open space connection to Dunhamtown Forest. The motion passed.**
- B. Haskell suggested that staff could set up a program to work with developers doing NAV plant rescue work on any land to be developed, removing seed or transplanting native plants to preserved areas.**

IV. Future Agendas. June 1, *Schoolhouse Brook Park* land management plan, Walking Weekend hikes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Haskell, PAC secretary
April 10, 2005